

Mini/Junior News

Hello... and welcome to the first edition of 2017! We hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year and are looking forward to some great rugby over the coming months. Throughout the season we aim to keep you up to date with what's happening across the mini/junior section at The Mannings, enabling us to continue to build on the strong foundations and thriving 'rugby family' we are very proud to have.

Get your kit on!

This season we've expanded the range of training & match kit that is on sale for the section. As well as shorts, socks & hoodies, we now stock training tops (the quick dry type), waterproof jackets, track pants & beanie hats - clothing to cover all weathers!

Sizes start from 3-4 years (some items only) up to adults XL with other sizes available to order.

Prices range from £6 (socks and beanies) through to £25 (adult jackets), & if like me, saving a pound or two is appealing, we also offer a reduced price bundle consisting of jacket, track pants & training top.

Don't forget, the kit isn't just for the players. What better way to show your support for the teams by sporting an embroidered hoody, beanie or any of the items available?

Girls section kit is also now available.

To check stock or place an order, please contact Georgie Lewis on 07876 645387 or catch her on a Sunday morning when the U10's are at home.

Yes Chef!

Seeing the rush to the clubhouse on a Sunday after training/matches and the sight of a muddy boots abandoned at the door can only mean one thing... hotdog time!

Not only do the players enjoy this great facility but so do all our supporters, whether it's for a cup of tea & a bacon butty while watching from the side lines or an 'alternative Sunday lunch' afterwards. Whatever the reason, we rely on volunteers to help in the kitchen on a Sunday morning to keep this going, that's why we need you. We are very short of volunteers and the kitchen has been closed on occasions as a result. Don't worry, you won't be tied to the cooker so you'll still get to watch most of the game!

You don't need to have any experience, just a willingness to pitch in & help feed the five thousand.

If you or someone you know is able to help, please let your team coach or manager know. Thank you!

Chairman's Chance

Once again we are at the halfway stage of the season and I think all the sections have done very well with the girls and boys sections gaining honours at higher levels. On a down side this season with the introduction of the out of grade playing we have lost two of sections, our under 11's and under 13's which will, in a few years time, mean we can not supply players for colts or senior teams unless we can recruit very well.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the new mini/junior committee for the first class job they are doing. We are in a much better position than we have been for a long time plus all the volunteers that help out. If anyone would like to get involved in the running of our mini/junior section please contact any of our coaches or committee members and we would be more than pleased to welcome you aboard. Also, if you know of any youngsters, boys or girls, who would like to play rugby please bring them along to our training sessions or games where they will be made more than welcome.

In the 1st teams programme a couple of weekends ago there was a photo of the 2012 colts team of which five of that team were playing in Saturdays game. This is good but all told 10 of the 1st team had played in our junior section (plus the 2 girls playing rugby for England) which says a lot for the mini/junior section and its coaches.

On a very sad note, on behalf of the mini/junior section, I would like to send our condolences to Wendy Tate and family on the sad loss of Jeff Tate a very long serving member of this club.

Best wishes

Gordon Bourne, Chairman of mini/junior section

Outstanding County Selection Success for Drybrook RFC Girls!

No fewer than 28 girls from Drybrook RFC have been selected to represent Gloucestershire this season! Thirteen U18s & fifteen U15s have been selected to train & play for the County.

The U15s are Olivia Smeeth, Shannon Wintle, Charlotte Probert, Ebony Pendery, Megan Meek, Lily Mae Walker, Jasmine Parham, Kenzi Sheen, Amber Dunstan Stamp, Georgia Peglar, Dionne Eaccups, Aesha Kaddem, Jayda Jenkins, Haidee Field & Maddie Ballinger. The U18s are Shauna Bennett, Kirsty Gwilliam, Brittany Morgan, Hannah Roberts, Leah Teague, Robyn Marsh, Wendy Kear, Kayla Skidmore, Jenna Skidmore, Lucy Moore, Harlie Field, Freya Lake & Georgia Wintle. Club Chairman Paul Mason said "this is an absolutely amazing achievement for Drybrook RFC & a credit to both the girls & the coaching staff - to have that many girls represent the County from our club is outstanding!"

The girls are now undertaking weekly training sessions & take part in 3 games versus other counties in the south west over the coming weeks.

The first game was versus Somerset on 30th October and five U15s & nine U18s from Drybrook RFC were selected to play in this first game. U15s selected were Olivia Smeeth, Lily Mae Walker, Ebony Pendrey, Shannon Wintle & Amber Dunstan Stamp. The 18s picked were Shauna Bennett, Kirsty Gwilliam, Kayla Skidmore, Jenna Skidmore, Wendy Kear, Robyn Marsh, Leah Teague, Hannah Roberts & Harlie Field.

U13's Girls are a Force to be Reckoned With!

The amazing Drybrook u13s Girls are still undefeated!! Every game so far this season the girls have been victorious - & added to the last few seasons of being unbeaten. What a remarkable achievement for the fantastic girls & their brilliant coaches Luke Roberts & Dean Durston.

After winning all games they've played in the Gloucestershire & West Midlands, the girls took a trip to Kingswood RFC to take part in a Somerset based Festival, playing in 4 games:

1 - Drybrook (8) v Weston Hornets (0). Tries scored by Hannah Kibble (5) & Millie Clarke (3).

2 - Drybrook (7) v Cheddar/Yeovil mixed (1). Tries scored by Millie Clarke (2), Hannah Kibble (2), Teagan Davies (1), Hollie Bishop (1) & Lyla Freeman (1)

3 - Drybrook (7) v Walcot (1). Try scorers were Ellie Keene (3), Hannah Kibble (3) & Teagan Davies (1)

Final Game - Drybrook (10) v Kingswood (0). Tries were scored by Millie Clarke (2), Ellie Keene (1), Hannah Evenson (1), Niamh Price (1), Hannah Kibble (1), Teagan Davies (2), Amy Cooke (1) & Hollie Bishop (1).

The whole team played exceptional rugby on a very cold afternoon in Bristol & they, and Drybrook U13 Girls continue to be absolute rugby stars.

Well done girls! x

Drybrook U7s

It has been a good first half of the season for the U7s with good numbers training & attending matches. The players have improved a great deal from the start of the season & we have a busy second half with a lot of games arranged from February. We have started to use the Gym at Dene Magna now that the cold weather has set in, even though it is a bit earlier than the normal 10:30 start time at least the players will be warm! To keep up to date with what is happening each week you can follow us on the Drybrook Mini Junior Section & Drybrook Kittens Facebook pages. We will try to put updates on games & training as soon as possible & if you could comment on these posts then we will know rough numbers for games and training.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping in anyway, please speak to one of us.

Thank you for your continued support this season so far. Best wishes

Jason, Paul & Leon.

A Bright Future for the U14s

Our U14s have continued the improved form they showed towards the end of last season. So far they have played 7 games, winning 4 , losing 2 & drawing 1. Lead try scorer so far is Niall Freeman with 19. Close behind is Will Oversby with 14 . Other scorers are Charlie Rushworth (3), Andres Nelmes (3), Keanan Nehru (2) & Malyn Davis & Ollie Baker with 1 each. Leighton Davies has kicked 10 conversions & Charlie Rushworth 6. The team currently lie second in their County Cup group , although we are still unsure at this stage if we qualify for the cup or plate knockout stages. The players have put in a lot of work this season with attendance at training on Friday nights being excellent. This has shown in improved results. We are now able to compete with the best teams in the County.

The boys are about to receive a new set of playing shirts which have again been sponsored by Oversby Accountants of Coleford. We would like to thank them for their continued support.

With continued hard work the future looks bright for this team. Best Wishes, Vic Jones (Coach).